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Client/Matter: 060258-0290483

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 3-4 and 9 to merely clarify the recited subject matter. Claims 1-9 are pending.

Preliminarily, Applicants note that the Office has neglected to initial all the reference entries included in the returned PTO Form 1449 dated December 20, 2001. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Office issue a copy of that PTO Form 1449 with all reference entries initialed to indicate consideration of all of the references cited therein.

Although the Office Action indicated a willingness to allow claim 8, providing that this claim is rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of any base and intervening claims, Applicants delay rewriting that claim at this time to afford the Office a full opportunity to reconsider the patentability of the rejected base claims.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-2 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being unpatentable in view of Schlasberg (WO 99/17230) and rejected claims 3-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103 based on Schlasberg. Applicants traverse the rejections because Schlasberg fails to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims.

For example, Schlasberg fails to disclose, teach or suggest a method of identifying an object having an identification means, comprising "reading the object's identification data from the identification means by transmitting said identification request signal by the mobile station's radio transmitter to said identification means at a point of time indicated by said authorization signal, and receiving an identification signal by the mobile station's radio receiver or by the mobile station's infrared receiver from said identification means, and identifying said object on the basis of the identification data included in the identification signal," as recited in independent claim 1 and its dependent claim 2.

Similarly, Schlasberg fails to disclose, teach or suggest a system comprising a mobile station comprising "a radio transmitter and a radio receiver for setting up a connection to the mobile switching centre via the base station [and] means for reading said object's identification data from the identification means: - by transmitting an identification request signal with the mobile stations radio transmitter to said identification means at a point of time indicated by the authorization signal, and - by receiving from said identification means the

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identification data included in an identification signal with the mobile station's radio receiver or with an infrared receiver, and means for transmitting the read identification data with the mobile station's radio transmitter over the radio path via the base station further to said data processing device," as recited in independent claim 3 and its dependent claims.

Finally, Schlasberg fails to disclose, teach or suggest a mobile station comprising "means for receiving an authorization signal, indicating a point of time allowed for transmitting an identification request signal, transmitted by the base station over the radio path, means which, in response to measures carried out by the mobile station's user via the user interface, read identification data from an object's identification means, said means for reading the identification data are composed of the mobile station's radio transmitter, which at the point of time indicated by the authorization signal transmits a predetermined identification request signal to said identification means, an of the mobile station's radio receiver or of an infrared receiver, which receives an identification signal comprising the identification data from said identification means, and the mobile station comprises means for transmitting the read identification data with said radio transmitter to said base station," as recited in independent claim 9.

Schlasberg merely teaches generally on the subject of information searching and distribution using a message information system which includes a plurality of objects each of which being associated with an identifier. However, Schlasberg fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed use of an authorization signal which would indicate, for a mobile station, the moment of time when the transmission of an identification request signal to the identification means of an object is allowed.

The Office Action asserted that page 4, lines 30-35 and page 8, line 24 to page 9, line 11 of Schlasberg disclose an authorization signal as recited in independent claims 1 and 3. However, those passages of Schlasberg, and Schlasberg as a whole, merely suggest that the mobile station may include a press button for switching between an information request mode and a phone mode. However, no authorization signal indicating a point of time allowed for transmitting an identification request signal is mentioned.

In fact, the cited passages of Schlasberg (particularly, page 4, lines 30-35) would actually have taught one of ordinary skill in the art away from the claimed invention by suggesting that the user himself, by pressing the button, determines the moment of time when a request message should be sent.

Moreover, the passage of Schlasberg at page 8, line 24 to page 9, line 11, merely suggests the use of a user registration means to customize information to the user, and to

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supply the information system with unused identifiers to have unused identifiers available when new objects need identifiers in the future. However, no authorization signal is mentioned in this passage of the reference.

The Office Action also referred to the passages of Schlasberg at page 7, line 8 to page 8, line 37, and page 8, line 24-37, asserting that these passages disclose the authorization signal of independent claim 9.

However, the passage at page 7, line 8 to page 8, line 23 merely suggests how the user may select a suitable address where the system will transmit information requested by the user. As a result, no authorization signal for reading an object's identifier is taught or suggested. Additionally, the passage at page 8, lines 24 to 37 only suggests the use of a user registration means enabling the system to customize information for the user. Therefore, no authorization signal for reading an object's identifier is taught or suggested.

Further, because Schlasberg fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed authorization signal, Schlasberg also fails to disclose, teach or suggest a solution wherein a mobile station's radio transmitter transmits a predetermined identification request signal to the identification means of an object at the point of time indicated by the authorization signal, as claimed in independent claims 1, 3 and 9. Therefore, independent claims 1, 3 and 9 and their respective dependent claims are patentable over Schlasberg.

Therefore, all objections and rejections have been addressed. Therefore, Applicant requests issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of all pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

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Please change any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patent is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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